

Appl. No. 09/839,100
Amdt. Dated September 23, 2004
Reply to Office action of June 23, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P13354-US1
EUS/JIP/04-2125

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheet includes changes to Fig 3.

A Submittal of Drawing Replacement Sheet(s) is being filed concurrently herewith under a separate cover. For your convenience, a copy of that filing is attached.

Attachment: Copy of Submittal of Drawing Replacement Sheets

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 3-6 and 13 have been amended and claims 2, and 8-12 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 3-7 and 13-16 remain pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Examiner Objections – Drawings

The Examiner objected to Figure 3 of the Drawings. The Applicant herewith submits a "formal" replacement sheet correcting the language as suggested by the Examiner. The Examiner's approval of the amendment to the drawings is respectfully requested.

3.) Examiner Objections – Specification

The Examiner objected to the Abstract and Specification for various informalities. The Applicants have amended the Abstract and Specification to correct certain typographical errors noted by the Examiner. The Examiner's consideration of the amendments are respectfully requested.

4.) Examiner Objections - Claims

The Examiner objected to Claims 4 and 5 as being in improper form. The Applicants have amended those claims to remove their improper dependency as noted by the Examiner.

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5.) Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claim 2, but indicated it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable of subject matter.

The Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 2. Accordingly, claim 1 is now allowable. The Applicants have also amended independent claims 6 and 13 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 2; whereas claims 6 and 13, as amended, include limitations analogous to those of claim 1, they are also now allowable. Furthermore, whereas claims 3-5 are dependent from claim 1, claim 7 is dependent from claim 6, and claims 14-16 are dependent from claim 13, and include the limitations of their respective base claims, those claims are also now allowable.

* * *

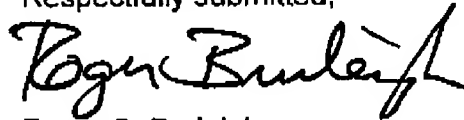
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1, 3-7 and 13-16.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 23, 2004

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